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SCINTILLAE JURIS (Sixth Edition) and MEDITATIONS IN THE TEA ROOM (Fourth Edition). By the Hon. Mr. Justice Darling, with a prefatory note by the Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Clark, K.C., London: Stevens and Haynes. 1914. pp. xii, 209.

The publishers have earned the gratitude of the younger generation of lawyers by bringing out a new edition of the *Scintillae*. Since 1877, when the first edition appeared anonymously, this little book has been a constant source of recreation and delight to the profession. Although written for the special edification of the English bar, when Brett, Bramwell and Kelly, whose judicial characteristics are satirized in the essay "Of Judges" were familiar figures on the bench, most of the *Scintillae* are still crisp and sparkling as ever. The passages on examination and cross-examination, witnesses and evidence, are fertile with suggestions for the young American advocate.

The *Meditations in the Tea Room*, which are combined with the *Scintillae* in this volume, are scarcely so familiar to American readers. For their benefit it should be noted that the seat of the "Meditations" is the tea room of the House of Commons, an atmosphere which gives the theme to the reflections. This book also was first published anonymously, and we are assured in a preface that it appeared some years before the author was elected to Parliament. The fact is a convincing bit of testimony to the closeness with which the secret of authorship was guarded, for the delicately pointed shafts which the young barrister directed against measures and ideas that were popular with the English electorate both in that day and this make the book, notwithstanding its merciless exposure of humbug, a daring tract to come from the pen of an aspirant to office. A flavor of cynicism running through the essays must have persuaded most readers that the work was what it purported to be: the mature reflections of a private member of long standing, with a keen eye and sharp tongue trained on the shams of democracy.

C. B.

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THE DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS. By John Neville Figgis. Second Edition. Cambridge: The University Press. 1914. pp. xi, 401.

Any extended reference to the second edition of this work which first appeared in 1896 is at this time unnecessary on account of the well-established position which it has already been accorded in the library of political philosophy. Little change has been made in the original text, although the author frankly concedes some historical shortcomings and confesses his conversion from the "Austinian idol." Three essays have, however, been added which in some measure expand the ideas of the original volume. These are "Aaron's Rod Blossoming or Jus Divinum in 1646," delivered as an address in the University of Leeds in 1913; "Erastus and Erastianism," which first appeared in the *Journal of Theological Studies* in 1900; and "Bartolus and the Development of European Political Ideas," reprinted from the *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* of 1905. These, with the original appendices and a working index, complete a volume still justified, if for no other reason, by its effort to define and create a proper contemporary attitude of mind toward what we are too prone to dismiss as the more or less impossible theories of bygone days.

S. C. M.

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A DIGEST OF THE LAW AND PRACTICE RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN ENGLAND AND WALES (including London). By Arthur D. Dean and E. J. Rimmer. London: Butterworth and Company. 1914. pp. xx, 303.

This work, in the words of the authors, is intended to provide a book "in every way suitable for students, officials and councillors alike." One's opinion